

THE
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American Literary Gazette and Publishers' Circular.

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F. LEYPOLDT, EDITOR AND PUBLISHER, 37 PARK ROW, NEW YORK.

VOL. V. No. 20.

NEW YORK, Saturday, May 16, 1874.

WHOLE No. 122

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NOTES IN SEASON.

WHITE'S "Selborne" is to be published by the Macmillans in the same elegant style as their "Holland House." It is a book often referred to by Ruskin and such writers. Gilbert White was a naturalist who knew how to use his eyes, and the book is a classic of nature-literature. It is to be published complete, such notes only to be added as are necessary to fill the gaps in ornithology caused by the lapse of time since the book first appeared. Mr. Philip Delamotte will furnish copious illustrations.

THE Roberts have a nice list of summer reading which retailers will do well to study carefully. Sara Coleridge's delightful fancy of "Phantasmion," Mrs. Moulton's pleasing stories of "Some Women's Hearts," and "Sea and Shore," the poetical compilation for summer reading, are the immediate novelties.

DIO LEWIS'S "Five Minute Chats with Young Ladies" is almost ready at Harpers, and with it that great work in two volumes, Schweinfurth's "Heart of Africa," said to be the best book of African travel ever issued. Trollope's novel of "Lady Anna," and Wilkie Collins's "Queen of Hearts," in the illustrated library edition, will

come at the same time. The Evangelical Alliance volume will be immediately put into the hands of the regular trade. On the next publication day; the last of the month, Harper's Hand-book of European Travel for 1874, Minister Motley's "John of Barneveld" and F. W. Robinson's novel of "Second-Cousin Sarah" will be issued.

CONWAY'S "Sacred Anthology" is now ready for publication at Henry Holt & Co's. It has been considerably revised by the author since the publication of the first English edition, and is very valuable for its quotations from the sacred books and great writers of all nations.

PROF. GEIKIE'S book on "The Great Ice Age," an important contribution to glacial literature, will be issued next week by the Appletons, with "Beausin-court" and Krusi's "Prospective Manual."

"THE LEGEND OF JUBAL, and other Poems," George Eliot's new book, is nearly ready at the Osgoods. Ten poems are included in the volume: the fine title-poem, originally published in the *Atlantic*; "Agatha," a beautiful poem of holy life; "Arm-gart," a dramatic poem in three scenes in the life of a *prima donna*, also published in the *Atlantic*; "How Liza Loved the King," a tale beautifully retold from Boccaccio; "A Minor Prophet," which includes a rollicking satire on an American vegetarian philosopher, and five shorter poems, of which "O, may I join the choir invisible" is a voicing of the Positivist aspirations. The admirers of this great genius will heartily welcome this collection of her later works in poetry. The book makes a 12mo of above 200 pages.

BUSINESS CHANGES.

BOSTON.—Messrs. Gould & Lincoln, the old publishing firm, have dissolved partnership, Mr. Lincoln retiring. Mr. Gould will carry on the business under the old firm, having removed from 59 to 57 Washington St.

NEW YORK.—Walter Carter has retired from the firm of Robert Carter & Brothers, to establish a retail business at 1,269 Broadway. Robert Carter, junior, will take his place in the firm, and they will continue the publishing business as usual at the old stand, 530 Broadway.

[OFFICIAL.]

Publishers' Board of Trade,

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY,

25 Bond Street, New York.

NEW YORK, May 12, 1874.

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The Prices in this List are for cloth lettered, unless otherwise indicated. Imported books are marked with an asterisk; Authors' and Subscription Books, or Books published at net prices, with two asterisks.

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- Alger.**—Julius; or, The Street Boy out West. By Horatio Alger, Jr. 16°. \$1.25.....*Loring.*
- Allan, W.** See Van Nostrand's Science Series.
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WE are in receipt of letters and requests from several quarters, coinciding entirely with our own views on the subject, as to a needed improvement in the second issue of the "Uniform Trade List Annual." Wilson, Hinkle & Co. ask that we "make it strictly a *price list* of books, not a *descriptive price list*. We find on looking over the Annual that above 500 *pages* are taken up with descriptive lists, which should have been condensed into one-fifth the space. Can you not remedy this in future?"

And Messrs. Collins & Bro., of this city, write that "The 'Trade List Annual' would be much more convenient if the publishers contributing would understand that *trade lists* and not catalogues are wanted. The volume is made cumbersome and unwieldy by the addition of a vast amount of superfluous matter—repetitions, illustrations, press notices, etc.—that have no excuse for appearance in such a place. If the publishers would give such lists as Ivison's or Butler's in the Annual for 1873, the volume would be reduced to one-tenth its present size; should such extreme brevity be considered undesirable, Harper's list might be taken as a model; it is admirable for its arrangement and for its intelligent condensation of the requisite information."

We furnish these examples to show that the trade recognizes the practical usefulness of having this bulky volume reduced to as compact shape as possible. We shall await the English trade list annual of Mr. Whittaker, which should be at hand within a few days now, before sending out our circular of details, to see if any further improvements that have not occurred to us have suggested themselves to him, desiring to render our own volume as nearly perfect as possible. But the improvement suggested is a very important one, and we trust will be taken up by publishers who are preparing new catalogues. Not only is it difficult to find the right page in a needlessly bulky volume of this sort, but it is desirable to have as many titles as possible to the page, so that the eye may quickly glance over a score of titles at once. We urge our contributors strongly to follow the Harper and Osgood models in the last annual for short title lists, or the Appleton and Lippincott for full title lists. The work will be much more complete this year than last, by the addition of the lists of many publishers who did not send, or sent too late, last year, besides of the annual list of publications, and it is in every way desirable that this should be heeded.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

PERSONAL REMINISCENCES, by Chorley, Planche, and Young. Edited by Richard Henry Stoddard. (Scribner, Armstrong & Co.) Mr. Stoddard has collected the very cream of the biographies of Chorley, Planche, and Young. Those who have not the time or inclination to wade through the many uninteresting details which go to make up the majority of personal narratives, will cordially appreciate his labors. This selection is admirable, presenting as it does the choicest anecdotes and reminiscences of the many literary and dramatic celebrities whose genius shed such lustre upon the beginning of this century. The plan of the "Bric-a-Brac Series," of which this is the initial volume, is a most capital one, and deserves to make it popular. Each volume will be complete in itself, and its material will be culled from the biographies or autobiographies of two or three contemporaneous writers. The dress of the series is a very attractive one. The style of binding is new and beautiful; the paper fine; the type excellent, and the page a square 12mo, one of the most agreeable sizes to read and handle. Price, \$1.50.

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LITERARY AND TRADE NEWS.

A VOLUME of English gypsy ballads, to be accompanied with metrical English translations, is in preparation by Charles Leland and Prof. E. H. Palmer, of Cambridge, and others.

THE life of the Lord Chief-Justice of England is to be the first of a series of reminiscences of London barristers. Mr. Edwin James is said to be writing for publication in New York.

THE second part of Mr. John Fraser's interesting historical study of the "Humorous Scrap-books of Scotland" is nearly ready at H. L. Hinton's. It is a valuable contribution in an interesting field of literary history. Mr. Fraser has just left for Europe, partly in search of further material for this work, but will return in June.

A TRADE complication has arisen in Chicago. As we have the facts, the volume of sermons, "Truths of To-day," by Prof. David Swing, were pushed out this spring by his publishers, Jansen, McClurg & Co., so as to appear at the time of his trial for heresy. In consequence of this hurry, several sermons which Prof. Swing did not wish to put in print without careful revision were omitted from the volume. Some of these had been printed in the *Chicago Pulpit*, of which Keen, Cooke & Co. bought the plates, and, adding to them certain sermons reported in the daily press and elsewhere, they issued a book under the title of "David Swing's Sermons." This was against the expressed wish of the author, who wrote a note to Keen, Cooke & Co., desiring them not to interfere with his own arrangements for publication, although they possessed the old plates in fee simple. The book has however been issued, of course against the protest of Jansen, McClurg & Co., and we understand, in spite of a proposition to leave the matter to arbitration.

SCRIBNER, WELFORD & ARMSTRONG were the importers of the MS. of Dickens' "Our Mutual Friend," which has been purchased by Mr. Geo. W. Childs for a very large sum. It is exceedingly interesting as a literary curiosity, and fills two large quarto volumes.

MR. JAMES PARTON is understood to be collecting material for a history of caricature.

MR. EUGENE SCHUYLER, it is said, will soon give up his positions as Consul at Riga and acting Secretary to the U. S. Legation at St. Petersburg, that he may write with greater freedom of the operations of the Russian troops. The Scribners will probably publish his book in the fall.

The School Book Commission in Philadelphia.

A MEETING of members of trades interested in the publication of school books was held at 617 Jayne St., Phila., to protest against the passage of the bill providing for a commission to select an authorized set of school books for the State. Mr. Mackellar acted as Chairman and Mr. A. G. Elliott as Secretary.

After the reading of the bill a number of addresses were made. Mr. Moore, of the firm of Jessup & Moore, declared that it was a blow aimed at the industries in which they were all interested. The State, he said, had never profited by going into the manufacturing business, and it was certain not only not to profit by this contemplated action, but it would open the doors for the greatest amount of corruption. The salary given to each commissioner (\$300) was, by itself, an indication that the whole affair was a huge job, in which any amount of money might be made if the commissioners were not men of the most unimpeachable integrity. They will have power to purchase copyrights. Here is a door for corruption. They can fix the price at which books may be sold. Here is another door for corruption. They can select text-books, and if they are in the slightest controlled by mercenary matters, this is a very wide door open to corruption. In addition to the private fortunes they could thus accumulate, and in addition to the prostration of one of the most important book interests of this as well as other cities, such a commission could not be expected to secure as high a standard in the scientific value of the books as at present. The speaker presented this most important phase of the subject in a clear light, and said, if for no other reason this should be the death-blow to the bill now before the House.

Messrs. Menamin, J. E. Potter, and A. G. Elliott were thereupon appointed a committee to present a protest personally to the members of the Legislature.

A letter was read from Mr. Henry C. Baird, in which he said:—Although not interested in the publication of any school book or books, I feel that the proposed interference of the Legislature in the matter of the selection of these books is a great wrong, which cannot be too severely condemned or too strongly resisted; and I think that the whole trade should make common cause in such resistance. Let us stand together and fight each other's battles, and we shall in time find the advantages in it, by seeing a return of that harmony of action and that good feeling which once existed among us. All our interests are one, and that which injures even the smallest publisher or bookseller injures all.

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